

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of canceled Claim 2. Accordingly, support for amended Claim 1 can be found in Claims 1 and 2 as previously presented.

Claims 3 and 12 have been amended to properly depend from currently amended Claim 1.

No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 3-7, 10-13, 20, 24, 25, 27, 31, and 32 remain active in this application.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Morris for withdrawing the rejection based on the prior art. Applicants also wish to thank Examiner Morris for indicating that Claims 2-4, 7, 9, 11, 20, 24, 25, 27, 31, and 32 are only objected to as depending from a rejected base claim and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of any base claim and any intervening claim. Applicants submit that, in view of the present amendments and remarks all of the pending claims are now allowable.

The rejection of Claims 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been obviated by amendment. As the Examiner will note, Claims 21-23 have been canceled.

The rejection of Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 12, 14, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment. As the Examiner will note, the claims have been amended such that they are free of the criticisms outlined on pages 7 and 8 of the Office Action. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 2. Applicants submit that Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are allowable for the same reasons Claim 2 was not rejected. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 8, 14, 15, 28-30, 33, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment. As the Examiner will note, Claims 8, 14, 15, 28-30, 33, and 34 have canceled. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.


Respectfully submitted,

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